REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Final Office Action dated January 10, 2008. At the time of the Final Office Action, Claims 1-15 were pending in the Application, of which, Claims 1-15 were rejected. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case.

Section 102 Rejections

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Keller (*"Keller"*) (U.S. Patent No. 7,240,325). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for the reasons stated below.

Claim 1 is directed to a method for management and configuration of remote agents. At least one web service is provided. At least one remote agent on a network is detected by the at least one web service by retrieving agent metadata from network devices based on one or more detection parameters. At least one of managing and configuring the at least one remote agent is performed based on the at least one web service. *Keller* does not teach or suggest each of the limitations.

For example, *Keller* fails to teach or suggest "detecting, by the at least one web service, at least one remote agent on a network by retrieving agent metadata from a plurality of network devices based on one or more detection parameters." *Keller* is directed to a system for generating functional, structural, and operational dependency models. *See Keller*, Abstract. In *Keller,* the system includes a resource dependency repository 225 that "contains the inventory of the hardware and software components of every managed resource 220 and the dependency information on a per-resource basis." *See Keller*, Column 14, lines 56-59. Thus, *Keller* fails to teach or suggest "detecting, by the at least one web service, at least one remote agent on a network by retrieving agent metadata from a plurality of network devices based on one or more detection parameters."

Similar to Claim 1, each of Claims 5 and 9 include limitations generally directed to detecting, by the at least one web service, at least one remote agent on a network by retrieving agent metadata from a plurality of network devices based on one or more detection

parameters. For at least those reasons discussed above with regard to Claim 1, Applicants respectfully contend that *Keller* does not teach or suggest the limitations of Claims 5 and 9. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully contend that Claims 5 and 9 are patentably distinguishable from *Keller*.

The dependent claims are allowable based on their dependence on the independent claims. Furthermore, Claim 13 is also allowable at least because *Keller* fails to teach or suggest "receiving at least one alert notification from the at least one remote agent, the at least one alert notification comprising an indication of a change to the at least one remote agent." Again, *Keller* is directed to generating functional, structural, and operational dependency models. The Office Action cites Column 10, line 65 - Column 12, line 30 of *Keller* in rejecting this limitation, but this reliance is misplaced. At no point does *Keller* teach or suggest "receiving at least one alert notification from the at least one remote agent, the at least one alert notification comprising an indication of a change to the at least one remote agent." Claims 14 and 15 are allowable for analogous reasons.
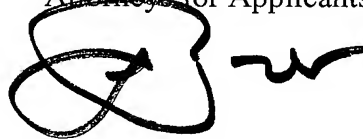
For at least the reasons above, Applicants respectfully contend that Claims 1-15 are patentably distinguishable from *Keller*. Thus, Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claims 1-15.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that this Application is in condition for allowance. For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending claims. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicants stand ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

Applicants believe that no fee is due. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments to **Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.**

Respectfully submitted,

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